

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)

Tsuyoshi SHIBATA)

Serial No.: ~~Not yet assigned~~)

Filed: September 24, 2001)

For: METHOD FOR FORMING PATTERN

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents:

1. Japanese Patent Laid Open No. 7-13540 discloses an image reversal by forming SOG film over resist pattern, then drying etching the SOG film through the resist surface.



2. Japanese Patent laid Open No. 3-13949 discloses an image reversal by forming a 2nd resist film with lower etch rate over a 1st resist film with higher etch rate, then dry etching the 2nd film.

3. Japanese Patent laid Open No. 2000-3029 discloses an application of image reversal to mask fabrication, in which RIE technique is used to etch back carbon containing film which is to be of the mask pattern.

English-language abstracts of the non-English Language documents are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

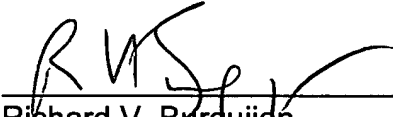
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:


Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744

Dated: September 24, 2001

Enclosures
RVB/FPD/bl

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000